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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): DeRosa et al.

Examiner: (Not Yet Assigned)

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Group: Art Unit (Not Yet Assigned)

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Dated: December 14, 2000-

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

TO: [illegible]
FROM: [illegible]
DATE: [illegible]
[illegible]

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicant(s) duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the listed items are enclosed.

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that the references are prior art. The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of these particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on December 14, 2000.

Dated: December 14, 2000

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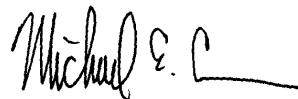
The filing of this information disclosure statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of this application.

Please charge any deficiency as well as any other fee(s) which may become due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and/or § 1.17 at any time during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment of such fee(s) to Deposit Account 04-1121. Also, in the event any extensions of time for responding and/or a petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i)(i) are required for the pending application(s), please treat this paper as a petition to extend the time and/or enter this Information Disclosure Statement as required and charge Deposit Account No. 04-1121 therefor. **TWO (2) COPIES OF THIS SHEET ARE ENCLOSED.**

The claims of the application as now presented are believed to be patentably distinguish over the prior art and to be in condition for allowance. Early and favorable consideration of this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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